Appl. No. 10/776,553

REMARKS

Claim 67 is amended. Claims 68 and 71 are cancelled. Claims 67, 69 and 70 are

pending in the application.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's indicated allowability of the subject matter

of claim 71.

Claims 67-70 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Without

admission as to the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, independent claim 67 is

amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 71 and intervening claim 68. Claims 68

and 71 are appropriately cancelled. Since the subject matter of claim 71 is indicate as

allowable, claim 67 as amended is allowable.

Claims 69 and 70 are allowable for at least the reason that they depend from

allowable base claim 67.

For the reasons discussed above, pending claims 67, 69 and 70 are allowable. The

application is therefore in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, applicant

respectfully requests formal allowance of claims 67, 69 and 70.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Fibruary 22, 20

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4